# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:981
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2016
Transfer of Food Subsidy
Chudasama Shri Rajeshbhai Naranbhai

**Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government has prepared a time-bound plan to directly transfer food subsidy to beneficiaries instead of foodgrains distribution and if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether the Government has carried out a survey to assess the choice of consumers regarding cash transfer and foodgrains distribution, if so, the details and outcome thereof; and
(c) the time by which the findings of the survey are likely to be implemented?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)
(a): As per the 'Cash Transfer of Food Subsidy Rules, 2015', which was notified on 21-08-2015 under the National Food Security Act, 2013, scheme of providing food subsidy in cash into the bank account of entitled households to enable them to purchase foodgrains from open market, can be taken up in the identified areas for which there is a written consent of the State Govt./UT Administration. With the consent of UTs, the scheme has been implemented in Chandigarh and Puducherry w.e.f 01.09.2015 and it has been partially implemented in Dadra & Nagar Haveli from 01.03.2016.
(b) & (c) : In food, DBT is being implemented in two ways i) Cash Transfer of food subsidy into bank account of beneficiaries ii) DBT in-kind means Automation of Fair Price Shops. As per the DBT rule, States/UTs have to ensure following prerequisite Conditions for implementing direct cash transfers for foodgrains:
â€¢ Complete digitization of Ration Cards/beneficiaries,
â€¢ Seeded with Aadhaar numbers and Bank Account details,
â€¢ Availability of banking facilities, and
â€¢ Adequate availability of foodgrains in the open market.
States/UTs have to complete the assessment of pre-requisite conditions. State can demand for the implementation of cash transfer scheme in the identified district/small area after fulfilment of above conditions.
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